

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of making an artificial tooth for placement in a denture comprising the steps of:

[[1]] a) making a mold form of the desired configuration;

[[2]] b) inserting in the mold form a thin layer of indirect composite ~~polycarbonate dimethacrylate~~ incisal material and forcing said material into the contour of the mold;

[[3]] c) subjecting said thin layer to a curing step including a first time segment of vacuum followed by a second time segment of vacuum and light curing including heat;

[[4]] d) adding additional thin layers of incisal material and subjecting each layer to the curing process of step [[5]] c) until the mold is full;

[[5]] e) removing the tooth from the mold form and subjecting the tooth to the curing step described in step [[3]] c) to complete the tooth.

2. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein following step [[9]] e) said tooth is inspected for voids and any such voids are filled with ~~polycarbonate dimethacrylate~~ incisal material.

3. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein following step e) retention holes are formed in the lower part of said tooth.

4. (original) A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein following filling any voids in said tooth, said tooth is lightly blasted with abrasive and rinsed in distilled water in ultrasonic cleaner.

5. (original) A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein following said rinsing step said tooth is glazed and further cured in a substantially oxygen-free atmosphere and light for approximately nine minutes.

6. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing an artificial tooth for placement in a denture comprising the steps of:

[[1]] a) making a form tooth;

[[2]] b) placing the form tooth in a mold form of impression material;

[[3]] c) removing the form tooth from the mold form after the form tooth ~~mol~~ has been in the mold form for at least substantially ten minutes;

[[4]] d) inserting in the mold form a thin layer polycarbonate dimethacrylate incisal material and forming said material into the contour of the mold;

[[5]] e) subjecting ~~subject~~ said thin layer to a five minute vacuum segment of approximately 27 in. of Hg followed by a three-minute segment of approximately 29 in. of Hg vacuum and light curing including heat;

[[6]] f) adding ~~add~~ additional layers of 2 mm or more thickness and subjecting ~~subject~~ each layer to the curing process of step [[5]] e) until the mold is full;

[[7]] g) removing the tooth from the mold form and subjecting the tooth to the curing step described in step [[5]] e).

7. (new) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein following step g) said tooth is inspected for voids and any such voids are filled with polycarbonate dimethacrylate material.

8. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein following step [[9]] g) said tooth is inspected for voids and any such voids are filled with polycarbonate dimethacrylate material.

9. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing an artificial tooth for placement in a denture comprising the steps of:

[[1]] a) making a mold of the desired tooth;

[[2]] b) making a mold form of impression material, such as Panasil Contact Plus™ or equal;

[[3]] c) placing a small layer of impression material on the surface of the tooth mold;

[[4]] d) pushing the mold into the mold form up to the base and leaving the bottom ~~and glue area~~ exposed;

[[5]] e) removing the tooth mold from the mold form after the tooth mold has been in the mold form for at least substantially ten minutes;

[[6]] f) inserting in the mold form a thin layer of indirect composite incisal material and forcing said material into the contour of the mold;

[[7]] g) subjecting said thin layer to a five minute vacuum of approximately 27 of Hg followed by a three-minute segment of approximately 29 in. of Hg vacuum and

light cure;

[[8]] h) adding ~~add~~ additional layers of indirect composite incisal material and subjecting ~~subject~~ each layer to the curing process of step [[8]] g) until the mold is full;

[[9]] i) removing the tooth from the mold form and subjecting the tooth to the curing step described in step g).

[[9]] 10. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 9 [[8]] wherein following step i) retention holes are formed in the lower part of said tooth.

[[10]] 11. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 9 [[8]] wherein following step [[10]] i) said tooth is inspected for voids and any such voids are filled with indirect composite incisal material.

[[11]] 12. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 11 [[10]] wherein retention holes are formed in the lower part of said tooth.

[[12]] 13. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 12 [[10]] wherein said tooth is blasted with a fine abrasive and rinsed.

[[13]] 14. (currently amended) A method for manufacturing an artificial tooth for placement in a denture comprising the steps of:

[[1]] a) making a mold of the desired tooth;

[[2]] b) making a mold form of impression material, such as Panasil Contact Plus™ or equal;

[[3]] c) gluing a handle to the mold;

[[4]] d) placing a small layer of impression material on the surface of the tooth mold;

[[5]] e) holding the handle, pushing the mold into the mold form up to the base and leaving the bottom and glue area exposed;

[[6]] f) removing the tooth mold from the mold form after the tooth mold has been in the mold form for at least substantially ten minutes;

[[7]] g) inserting in the mold form a thin layer of an indirect composite incisal material and forcing said material into the contour of the mold;

[[8]] h) cure said thin layer under light;

[[9]] i) repeat step [[7]] g) as required until the mold form is filled, adding color as required to each layer to complete the tooth;

[[10]] j) removing the tooth from the tooth mold and placing the tooth in a light-curing oven for nine minutes;

[[11]] k) inspect the tooth for voids or other imperfections and fill any voids with incisal material;

[[12]] l) lightly smooth or buff tooth;

[[13]] m) create retention holes in bottom of tooth;

[[14]] n) lightly blast tooth with white aluminum oxide and rinse in distilled water in ultrasonic cleaner approximately two minutes or steam clean;

[[15]] o) dry tooth and stain if needed;

[[16]] p) seating tooth in curing unit, base side down, and glaze glazed;

[[17]] q) cure in nitrogen atmosphere and light for nine minutes;

[[18]] r) cure in heat-curing oven twenty minutes;

[[19]] s) remove from oven and allow to cool; and

[[20]] t) inspect and buff with chamois wheel, if needed.

[[14]] 15. (currently amended) An artificial tooth for placement in a denture and formed in a mold comprising:

a plurality of layers of indirect composite incisal material, each layer of which is subjected in said mold to a curing process including exposure to vacuum and light-curing steps in an oxygen-free atmosphere; and

a further curing step after removal from the mold including exposure to a vacuum and light-curing step in an oxygen-free atmosphere.

[[15]] 16. An artificial tooth as claimed in claim 15 [[14]] wherein said tooth includes retention holes for anchoring said tooth to a denture.

[[16]] 17. An artificial tooth as claimed in claim 15 [[14]] wherein following said vacuum and light-curing step said tooth is blasted with a fine abrasive and rinsed.

[[17]] 18. An artificial tooth as claimed in claim 15 wherein said tooth has a glazed and/or polished surface.

19. (new) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein following step g) retention holes are formed in the lower part of said tooth.